

FORM B – BUILDING

MASSACHUSETTS HISTORICAL COMMISSION
MASSACHUSETTS ARCHIVES BUILDING
220 MORRISSEY BOULEVARD
BOSTON, MASSACHUSETTS 02125



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Recorded by Nancy S. Seasholes

Organization Lexington Historical Commission

Date (month / year) March 1998

Assessor's Number USGS Quad Area(s) Form Number

006200017

Boston N.

714, 715

Town Lexington

Place (neighborhood or village)

Address 114 East St.

Historic Name Adam Peters House

Uses: Present Residential

Original Residential

Date of Construction 1881

Source Lexington Valuation lists

Style/Form Italianate

Architect/Builder

Exterior Material:

Foundation Brick

Wall/Trim Wood Clapboard

Roof Asphalt Shingle

Outbuildings/Secondary Structures Barn, shed

Major Alterations (with dates)

Window in front gable, greenhouse, rear additions, barn converted to studio (dates unknown)

Condition Good

Moved ☒ no ☐ yes **Date**

Acreage 1.6 A.

Setting Set back from a busy street across from a 1970s condominium development of Georgian-style houses

BUILDING FORM

ARCHITECTURAL DESCRIPTION ☐ see continuation sheet

Describe architectural features. Evaluate the characteristics of this building in terms of other buildings within the community.

114 East St. (MHC #714) is a nice example of a front-gabled Italianate farmhouse that still has its associated barn and, despite some alterations, still retains many of its original finishes. The original house is rectangular with a rear ell, 2½ stories, two-by-three bays, and front-gabled with two side chimneys. The rear ell is front-gabled, two stories, and two-by-three bays. The house is set on a brick foundation, clad with wood clapboards, and roofed with asphalt shingles. A greenhouse has been added on the east elevation, a one-story shed-roofed addition at the rear of the ell, and a one-story flat-roofed addition on a concrete foundation on the west elevation. The main block has 2/2 or 1/1 double hung windows and a front entrance with a transom light and one sidelight, the other sidelight having been replaced with an engaged Tuscan column. Italianate finishes on the main block include three-sided bays on the facade and both side elevations, paired decorative brackets at the cornice, brackets under the projecting surround of the front second-story window, panels under the bay windows, and a wide eave board in the front gable. A porch with Tuscan columns extends across the facade and Tuscan columns also support the gabled roof over the side entrance of the rear ell. The 1½-story front-gabled barn (MHC #715) is on a brick foundation and has been converted to a studio. A garden shed at the rear of the property has a tall chimney and one open bay for a vehicle.

HISTORICAL NARRATIVE ☐ see continuation sheet

Discuss the history of the building. Explain its associations with local (or state) history. Include uses of the building, and the role(s) the owners/occupants played within the community.

This house was built in 1881 by Adam Peters (b. 1843), whose family had come to Lexington from Germany in 1855, who had lived in the house now at 49 East St. (MHC #709) after his father had moved it there in 1860, and whose sister Barbara had married Timothy K. Fiske in 1857 and lived in the house now at 71 East St. (MHC #711). The 35 acres of land originally associated with this house had been sold in 1868 to Adam's brother Peter, but the latter did not build a house and in 1876 lost the property in a mortgage foreclosure to his brother Adam. Lexington assessors' record indicate that in 1877 Adam Peters built a barn and an outbuilding on the farm and then, in 1881, this house. *Lexington Directory's* list Adam Peters as a milk dealer. The house remained in the Peters family until 1925 and was acquired in 1934 by Oscar B. Kenrick, who raised market vegetables and, later, nursery plants. The farm was subdivided in the 1960s.

BIBLIOGRAPHY and/or REFERENCES ☐ see continuation sheet

Guy and Elaine Doran, personal communication 1998.

Lexington Directory. 1887, 1894, 1899, 1901-02, 1906, 1908-09.

Lexington Valuation Lists. 1868-1883.

Middlesex Registry of Deeds. Deeds. Cambridge, MA. 1057: 225; 1392: 301; 4886: 265; 5781: 444; Plan No. 851 of 1960.

☐ Recommended for listing in the National Register of Historic Places. *If checked, you must attach a completed National Register Criteria Statement form.*

INVENTORY FORM CONTINUATION SHEET

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Town
Lexington

Property Address
114 East St.

Area(s) Form No.

714, 715



Roll #17, Negative #15